

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 63**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Bass**  
(Principal coauthor: Senator Steinberg)

April 20, 2009

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 63—Relative to Foster Care Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 63, as introduced, Bass. Foster Care Month.

This measure would declare the month of May 2009 as Foster Care Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, In California there are 75,000 children and youth  
2 in foster care who need and deserve safe permanent connections  
3 to loving adults, a stable home, and adequate preparation for a  
4 secure future; and  
5 WHEREAS, The needs of children and youth for belonging and  
6 unconditional emotional commitment are best met in families; and  
7 WHEREAS, Many California counties have successfully  
8 supported permanent family connections for foster youth, provided  
9 support for families at risk of entering the child welfare system,  
10 and changed practices to fully engage youth, family, and  
11 communities, thereby reducing the number of children in foster  
12 care; and  
13 WHEREAS, California recognizes the enduring and valuable  
14 contribution of relatives and foster and adoptive parents who open

1 their hearts, families, and homes to vulnerable children and youth;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, California recognizes the numerous individuals  
4 and public and private organizations that work to ensure that the  
5 needs of children and youth living in and leaving foster care are  
6 met, that help provide foster and former foster children and youth  
7 with vital connections to their siblings, and that help launch young  
8 people into successful adulthood; and

9 WHEREAS, The new federal law, the Fostering Connections  
10 to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act, offers opportunities to  
11 promote permanent families for children in foster care, improve  
12 outcomes for older youth in foster care, increase support for Native  
13 American foster children, improve the quality of staff working  
14 with youth in the child welfare system, expand our support of  
15 relative and adoptive caregivers, and assist older youth in securing  
16 meaningful supportive transitions from foster care; and

17 WHEREAS, The new federal law affirms California's leadership  
18 and success in pioneering innovative child welfare approaches;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, California is committed to working in partnership  
21 with the federal government to improve the lives and futures of  
22 all children and youth touched by the child welfare system; now,  
23 therefore, be it

24 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
25 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares the month of  
26 May 2009 as Foster Care Month; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
28 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.